

Remarks

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1 and 3-23 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 9, 12, and 18 being the independent claims. Claim 12 is sought to be amended merely to correct a typographical error. Claims 2 and 24 were previously canceled. This amendment does not add new matter and does not change the scope of the claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this Amendment be entered.

Allowed Claims

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating the allowability of claims 1 and 3-23 in the Notice of Allowance dated April 20, 2006.

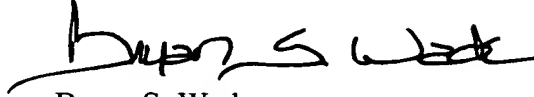
Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance

Applicants note the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance presented on pages 2-3 of the Notice of Allowance. Applicants reserve the right to demonstrate claims 1 and 3-23 are allowable over the art made of record for further reasons related to any of their recited features. Applicants further contend that reservation of this right does not give rise to any implication regarding whether the Applicants agree with or

acquiesce in the reasoning provided by the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bryan S. Wade", written over a horizontal line.

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